

**Nonprofit Studies Program
Annual Report
Academic Year 2006-2007**

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Infrastructure

In the 2006-2007 academic year, the Nonprofit Studies Program continued to build its infrastructure as a major academic center. Specific accomplishments include the following:

- The NSP appointed Vermell Lighter as its first administrative coordinator and Linda Serra as publications director. Prof. Janet Johnson was formally engaged as the program's associate director and Prof. Harvey Newman was appointed as the program's educational director.
- Shena Ashley was recruited to join the PAUS faculty for fall 2007, and has joined the NSP core faculty group. Peter Topping (Emory University), Derek Shendell (Public Health, GSU) and John Floyd (Trusco Capital Management) were welcomed to the NSP associated faculty group.
- Mr. Benjamin White, Esq. has joined the NSP's distinguished advisory board.
- The advisory committee, chaired by Alicia Philipp, Executive Director of the Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta, continues to advise the NSP on long term strategy and resource development, and has appointed a resource development subcommittee to pursue private gifts to support the work of the center.
- The NSP has also organized an special advisory committee in nonprofit law to oversee its prospective collaborations with GSU's College of Law and its new course content in nonprofit law.
- The NSP website continues to add research reports and working papers and to document its programs, activities and associated personnel.

Planning

The NSP worked with the MPA committee of PAUS to refine and expand the nonprofit concentration in nonprofit management. It has also developed a new undergraduate concentration in the Bachelors of Public Policy degree program and is working with American Humanics to couple this concentration with the AH certificate program in nonprofit management. A grant pending with the Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta and the United Way Volunteer Council is expected to support this NSP-AH partnership in undergraduate education.

The NSP is working with faculty of the College of Law to plan an educational and clinical program in nonprofit law. An advisory committee led by Benjamin White of Alston & Bird has been organized and a preliminary proposal has been drafted.

Resource Development

Working with its advisory board and AYSPS Development Director Bill Doerr, the NSP continues to refine its vision for the future. A professional case statement has been crafted into a working document to guide and support the NSP's resource development subcommittee and to dovetail with the university's capital campaign.

The NSP received a second grant from the UPS foundation to support scholarships for student participation in various NSP programs, courses and conference activity. The grant is supporting doctoral and masters degree students, students in the NSP's executive education program (see below) and student participation in the NSP's research conferences (see below).

The NSP also received gifts from Northern Trust Bank, the Rockdale Foundation, Alston and Bird, Hicks Law, Coxe-Curry and Boardwalk Consulting to support its various programs.

Events

- In October, 2006 the NSP sponsored the first UPS distinguished lecture on nonprofit leadership, governance and economic stewardship, delivered by Prof. Herrington Bryce of William and Mary University; the second annual UPS lecture will be offered by Dr. Francie Ostrower of the Urban Institute, in October, 2007.
- In April, 2007, Prof. Paul Light of New York University led the NSP's seventh annual executive roundtable program, speaking on the subject of future leadership for the nonprofit sector. Light's presentation was followed by presentations of original research on the nonprofit labor market by Prof. Janet Johnson, Prof. Eric Twombly and Michael Wald of the U.S. Department of Labor and an open discussion coordinated by Shena Ashley of the Annie E. Casey Foundation.
- In September, 2007, the NSP is co-sponsoring a national research conference on nonprofit governance, accountability and economic stewardship in partnership with the National Center on Nonprofit Enterprise, the Urban Institute, and Virginia Tech, to be held in Washington, D.C.
- The NSP is leading the host committee for the annual conference of the Association for Research on Nonprofit Organizations and Voluntary Action (ARNOVA) to be held in Atlanta in November, 2007, where Ambassador Andrew Young will be the keynote plenary speaker. The NSP and AYSPS are sponsoring the opening reception for the conference, and the NSP is coordinating an historic tour of Atlanta for conference participants designed by Prof. Harvey Newman.

Research

NSP faculty members have posted nine new working papers on the NSP website and have published more than 15 book chapters and articles in academic journals in the 2006-2007 academic year.

NSP faculty members are also engaged in several major new research projects. Janelle Kerlin is working on a joint project with The Urban Institute to provide data on international nonprofit organizations for a new Index of Global Philanthropy. Harvey Newman conducted a research project to develop performance measures for the Regional Council of Churches of Atlanta.

The NSP's monthly research seminar series in 2006-2007 featured a full schedule of GSU faculty, as well as external speakers including Sal Alaimo of Indiana University, Jamil Zainaldin of the Georgia Humanities Council, Martin Lehfeltd of the Southeastern Council of Foundations, Michael Owen of Emory University, Andresa Ortmann of the Charles University Economics Institute, Czech Republic, Jeff Brudney and Young-Joo Lee of the University of Georgia and Michael Wald of the U.S. Department of Labor. The series is open to all faculty, students and members of the Atlanta nonprofit community. Speakers for the 2007-2008 academic year will include Janelle Kerlin of the NSP, Doug Ammar of the Georgia Justice Project, John Bare of the Blank Foundation, Derek Shendell of the Public Health Program of GSU, and Del Martin of Alexander, Haas, Martin and Partners, and Bill Waugh of the NSP.

The NSP convened a Philanthropy Study Group, composed of leaders in Atlanta's philanthropic community, and as a result of study group deliberations is undertaking a new study of *Nonprofit Georgia* which will analyze the distribution and composition of financial resources and services of nonprofit organizations in Georgia, examine differences in nonprofit resources among urban, suburban and rural areas and highlight strategic opportunities for philanthropy in Georgia. A grant proposal has been submitted to a local foundation to support this effort.

A proposal to establish a new journal entitled *Nonprofit Policy Forum* has been submitted for consideration to the Policy Press. This proposal involves an editorial partnership with 10 other academic centers of nonprofit study across the U.S. and in Europe and Israel. The journal will occupy a new niche, building on the strengths of the Andrew Young School, by focusing specifically on the impact of public policy on nonprofit organizations, the role of nonprofits in public policy formation, and the operation of nonprofit policy advocacy organizations.

Faculty associated with the NSP presented research papers and/or led sessions at several national and international conferences in 2006-2007 including ARNOVA, the Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management, the Urban Affairs Association, the Israeli Center for Third Sector Research 10th Anniversary Conference, the European Group on Organization Sciences (EGOS) conference, the Jessie Ball DuPont Fund Executive Institute sponsored by the Center for Nonprofit Leadership of Georgetown

University, the Summer School in Public Economics at the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies, the Social Enterprise Alliance conference, and the International Forum on Social Entrepreneurship.

NSP faculty published several books in 2006-2007 including *Wise Decision-Making in Uncertain Times: Using Nonprofit Resources Wisely*, The Foundation Center, 2006; and *Financing Nonprofits: Putting Theory into Practice*, Alta-Mira Press, 2006.

Forthcoming books include *Nonprofit Economics and Management: The State of Research* co-edited by Bruce Seaman and Dennis Young, Edward Elgar Publishers, 2008; and *Social Enterprise: A Global Comparison* edited by Janelle Kerlin under review at Kumarian Press.

Service

The NSP engaged in a variety of service activities aimed at improving the management capacity of local and national nonprofit organizations, including the following:

- Several NSP faculty participated on advisory boards of local nonprofit organizations, including the Foundation Center, the Regional Council of Churches of Atlanta, the Georgia Afterschool Report Task Force and the Georgia Afterschool Investment Council and the Metro Atlanta Homeless Commission Advisory Council.
- NSP faculty offered workshops, speeches, lectures and other presentations to several local nonprofit groups including Faith And The City, the Faith Alliance of Metropolitan Atlanta, Georgia Stand-Up and Women's Employment Opportunity Project, and also lectured on the role of nonprofits in society to various community, government and nonprofit leadership groups in Buenos Aires, Argentina on invitation of the U. S. Department of State.
- NSP faculty served as reviewers of papers and proposals for several professional associations including ARNOVA.
- NSP faculty served as reviewers for several professional journals including the American Review of Public Administration, Nonprofit Management and Leadership, Public Finance Review, Voluntas, Journal of Urban Affairs, Urban Affairs Review and Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly.
- Dennis Young served as a site visit reviewer for the nonprofit studies program of North Carolina State University in Raleigh, NC.
- NSP faculty are serving on several important national or international advisory committees including the advisory board for the *International Encyclopedia of Civil Society* and the Advisory Council for Social Entrepreneurship of Ashoka.

Educational Initiatives

The NSP partnered in June, 2007 with the Georgia Center for Nonprofits and the Goizuetta School of Business of Emory University to offer a one week course in

executive leadership for top leaders of nonprofit organizations. Thirty-seven top executives from nonprofit organizations in Georgia and Florida, as well as two from Africa and India, participated in the course and received a certificate of completion. Faculty were drawn from the NSP, Emory University, universities nationwide including Georgetown University, the University of Minnesota and the University of Dayton, as well as distinguished practitioners from Atlanta and Chicago. The course received excellent evaluations from the students and is expected to be offered again in the summer of 2008. Several Atlanta-based foundations and law and consulting firms provided scholarships for students to attend at reduced rates.

The faculty worked to strengthen the specialization in Nonprofit Management within the Master of Public Administration degree. The curriculum reflects both the requirements of the accreditation standards of the National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration (NASPAA) as well as the guidelines developed by the Nonprofit Academic Centers Council (NACC). Three new courses, PAUS 8203, 8213, and 8233, were approved by the faculty of the Department and School. Two existing courses were also substantially revised in relationship to the NASPAA and NACC curriculum standards.

Faculty in the Nonprofit Studies Program also developed a joint degree program with the Center for Social Enterprise (CIES) of the University of Barcelona. The agreement between the two institutions enables students to earn either the MPA degree or the MS/UPS degree from the AYSPS and the Master of Social Enterprise degree or the Master of Corporate Social Responsibility degree from the CIES. In January, the faculty of the Nonprofit Studies Program hosted Professor Avis Vidal, the President of the CIES. Professor Vidal met with the faculty, worked out details of the joint degree program, and participated in two seminars with students in Nonprofit Studies classes. In April, Professor Harvey Newman participated in the four-day seminar held for students in the Master of Corporate Social Responsibility degree in Barcelona. He also presented the documents for signature establishing the joint degree between the two institutions.

The NSP offered its first doctoral seminar on nonprofit research issues in the Spring of 2007. Six doctoral students in the AYSPS participated in the course, all of whom are on track to write their dissertations on nonprofit-related topics.

Progress in Assessing Institutional Effectiveness

The NSP conducts a weekly brown bag lunch meeting of faculty and staff associated with the program, at which program planning and new initiatives are regularly reviewed.

Within the curriculum of the Nonprofit Studies Program, each course in the masters programs has been connected to the learning outcomes developed by NASPAA and NACC. This applies to courses required in the core of the MPA degree as well as those which are part of the Nonprofit Management specialization. Curriculum effectiveness within Nonprofit Studies classes is assessed in a variety of ways. Colleagues work together during brownbag luncheon meetings to share syllabuses and course requirements

among all classes offered within the program. As an example, Professor Dennis Young substantially revised the syllabus and requirements for PAUS 8210, Introduction to the Nonprofit Sector, offered during the fall 2006 semester. During the spring 2007 semester, Professor Harvey Newman further modified the syllabus for the course so that each class session addressed a portion of the learning outcomes for nonprofit students developed by NACC. The results of this process will become a model shared with other faculty in the brownbag luncheon meetings. Faculty from the Nonprofit Studies Program also led the effectiveness outcomes assessment process for the BS/UPS and MS/UPS degrees that is required by the University.